

## DEACON REPORT: 2009

The year 2009 was a year of change for Eagleville Bible Church as we started the year meeting at the Expo Center and at the end of May moved into our new church building. The church celebrated this transition with an entire weekend of activities that included people from the past, current people in various ministries, events for the children, a night of great worship music entertainment, and a dinner. We had a wonderful time of worship on Sunday that included many new people from the community. The Deacons would like to thank all who worked very hard to make this weekend celebration possible.

The Deacons are expected to be ministry leaders, small group leaders, and men that are involved in various other ministries. The current Deacons are Jeff Watson, Steve Arsulic and Dave Bissell. Jeff Watson is in charge of benevolence, and he keeps track of our Forward in Faith campaign. Steve Arsulic is very involved in Celebrate Recovery. I facilitate the Mission Committee meetings.

The Board typically meets the first Thursday of every month. The Deacons and the Trustees meet as separate boards at 6:30 pm and join together to meet around 7:15 pm as the Joint Board. During the Deacon's meeting, there is normally discussion about what is going on in some of our people's lives. Over this past year, we saw many surgeries and sicknesses, deaths and births, victories and defeats. The Deacons and pastors also discuss benevolence issues. During the Joint Board meeting, the overall operation of the church is discussed. We talk about the weekly ministries and what needs to be done to improve or help them. We make decisions about which ministries are needed and discuss how to implement those ministries. Sometimes we invite ministry leaders in from various ministries (such as: Junior Church, nursery, GRACE Teams, small groups, etc.) so that they can provide an update on the successes, failures, and needs. Different people on the Board have different areas to oversee mostly connected to Sunday morning worship (such as: food, nursery, Junior Church, seating, parking, the Information Table, and greeting). The Board sets the budget and works to keep the church within budget throughout the year. One of the difficulties the Board faced in setting the 2010 budget is in knowing what the actual cost of running our new facility will be. We have a pretty good idea of energy cost per month now, but that will change if energy costs rise or fall. Snow plowing is another variable that could go up or down based on the amount of snow we get. There are costs we can control. Whenever possible, we will use volunteers to do maintenance and cleaning rather than hire outside agencies. To that end, it would be helpful if all of us clean up after ourselves. There are volunteers cleaning and setting up chairs. There are many opportunities for service for all in our church. We welcome the help.

Our church's mission statement is: "Helping wanderers become followers of Jesus Christ." It is based on The Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20. Each and every one of us has a responsibility to tell others about the Lord and to live a life that exemplifies Him. The church is one of the best venues to put our spiritual and natural gifts to work. There are many ministries in our church where a person can practice and grow their faith. There is a Ministry Description Book on the Information Table that details where a person could plug in. Some of the ministries added this past year involved sports where people inside and outside of the church were involved in basketball and volleyball. We were also able to host two blood drives.

God has truly blessed our church. We have people coming from many different backgrounds and denominations, but we have One person who we follow and He unites us. Colossians 2:6-7 states: *"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord continue to live in Him, rooted and built up, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness."* We get to know each other when we spend time together, we do work projects side by side, attend men's and women's conferences, when we set up and tear down chairs together, and when we join together in small groups. Iron sharpens iron, and that means we learn from one another and we challenge each other. Our Oasis Prayer Meeting is another great place to meet people and connect to the church. When we come together and pray for each other and for the needs of our church family, our individual families, our missionaries, our government leaders and events around the world, it makes us aware of needs we wouldn't normally know about. If the church is going to do anything truly lasting, God needs to be at the center of it.

We are in our new church building now, but we haven't arrived at our final destination. We need to pay off the mortgage on this building so we can move on to whatever the next building stage will be. We seek to add ministries that support our mission and culture and that give people a place to grow their faith. Hopefully, we will host conferences, concerts, and programs that bring people to salvation in Christ and that promote a Christ-like way of life. We need to manage the ministries we have to encourage more involvement and to make people feel welcome. We seek to have a body of believers that demonstrates a faith that is alive and that invites others to come along.

May the grace of Jesus Christ be with God's people!

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Bissell